

## Message Text

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DRAFTED BY: CEQ:JACK PERRY

APPROVED BY: SCI/EN:WCSALMON

CEQ:MR ATKESON

EUR/SES:MR PARDON

SCI/EN:MR KULICK

DISTRIBUTION: NONE INDICATED

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R 182046Z SEP 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

UNCLAS STATE 185389

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SENV, UR

SUBJ: US-USSR ENVIRONMENTAL AGREEMENT: LEGAL

1. CHAIRMAN OF LEGAL/ADMINISTRATIVE WORKING GROUP,  
GENERAL COUNSEL TIMOTHY ATKESON OF CEQ, HAS RECEIVED  
LETTER FROM SOVIET COUNTERPART OLEG KOLBASOV OF  
INSTITUTE OF STATE AND LAW PROPOSING SIX-MAN US DELEGATION  
PAY RETURN VISIT TO USSR SECOND HALF MAY 1974 FOR FOURTEEN  
DAYS (3-4 MEETING IN MOSCOW, REST SPENT IN FIELD  
VISITS) WITH BASIC THEME OF MEETING "RELATIONSHIP  
OF NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL LEGAL SYSTEMS IN  
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION." EMBASSY IS REQUESTED TO  
TRANSMIT FOLLOWING REPLY ATKESON TO KILBASOV:

2. DEAR DR. KOLBASOV: THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR YOUR  
LETTER OF JULY 6, WHICH WAS APPARENTLY DELAYED IN  
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TRANSMITTAL. I APPRECIATE YOUR KIND WORDS ABOUT

YOUR VISIT, WHICH WE REMEMBER WITH GREAT PLEASURE.

3. ALL OF THE PROPOSALS YOU SET FORTH IN YOUR LETTER CONCERNING THE RETURN VISIT OF US SPECIALISTS ARE ACCEPTABLE. I SUGGEST THAT WE AGREE UPON THE DATES MAY 12-25 FOR THE VISIT. I WILL AWAIT YOUR SUGGESTIONS ABOUT PLACES TO VISIT IN AND OUTSIDE MOSCOW, AND MAY HAVE SOME REQUESTS OF MY OWN TO PUT FORWARD LATER. WHEN I HEAR FROM YOU FURTHER ABOUT THE REPORTS BEING PREPARED BY SOVIET SPECIALISTS FOR THE MEETING, I WILL ADDRESS THE QUESTION OF REPORTS TO BE PRESENTED BY THE US SPECIALISTS. WE WILL HAVE TIME BETWEEN NOW AND MAY TO DISCUSS OTHER QUESTIONS THAT ARISE.

4. I WAS SORRY TO SEE THAT IN YOUR LETTER YOU DID NOT MENTION TWO AREAS ON WHICH WE PUT FORWARD SPECIFIC PROPOSALS, (A) THE INVITATION FOR A SOVIET SCHOLAR TO DO RESEARCH AT THE WOODROW WILSON CENTER, AND (B) OUR PROPOSAL FOR EXCHANGES BETWEEN US AND SOVIET PUBLIC ENVIRONMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS. I WOULD HOPE VERY MUCH TO HEAR FROM YOU SHORTLY ABOUT BOTH OF THESE PROPOSALS. WITH REGARD TO (A), WE WOULD LIKE TO HAVE AN APPLICATION FROM A SOVIET SCHOLAR WITH A PROJECT IN THE ENVIRONMENTAL AREA. WITH REGARD TO (B), I UNDERSTAND THAT THE SIERRA CLUB HAS BEEN IN COMMUNICATION WITH THE ALL-RUSSIAN FEDERATION FOR NATURE PRESERVATION AND THE FEDERATION HAS MENTIONED THE POSSIBILITY OF A US VISIT UNDER FEDERATION AUSPICES IN 1974. AS YOU KNOW, THE AUDUBON SOCIETY AND THE NATIONAL WILDLIFE FEDERATION ARE ALSO INTERESTED IN THIS EXCHANGE, AND I BELIEVE WE SHOULD MAKE CONCRETE ARRANGEMENTS FOR SUCH AN EXCHANGE UNDER PROJECT XI. THEREFORE, I TRUST YOU WILL TAKE THIS MATTER UP WITH THE FEDERATION AND LET ME KNOW WHERE IT STANDS IN THE NEAR FUTURE. WITH BEST REGARDS TO YOU AND YOUR COLLEAGUES,  
TIMOTHY B. ATKESON. END TEXT. RUSH

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